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**MEDIA, PA** – Recognizing her outstanding accomplishments and expressing his confidence that she would perform exceptionally as she fulfills her duty to uphold the Constitution, Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) applauded the confirmation of Judge Sonia Sotomayor as the Supreme Courts 111<sup>th</sup> Justice, replacing retired Justice David Souter. On the day of President Obama's nomination of her, the Congressman reviewed Judge Sotomayor's credentials and offered his full support of her, acknowledging her incredible background, wealth of experience and President Obama's perspective as a former constitutional law professor.

"I am pleased that the Senate has voted to confirm Judge Sotomayor," said Congressman Sestak. "Judge Sotomayor understands that championing our Constitutional values demands that a judge realize the impact of laws on Americans' everyday lives and the Senate has responsibly followed an appropriate timeline that was cited by the President, and that I supported, by taking its final vote before the August recess. This will allow her a suitable amount of time to prepare for and participate when the Court confers in September to select cases to be heard this year."

"As I said when Judge Sotomayor was selected by the Administration, her life experiences, her success in a variety of roles and her judicial track record makes her a worthy choice to serve on our nation's highest court. She has served impressively as a big-city prosecutor, a corporate litigator, a federal trial judge on the U.S. District Court, and an appellate judge on the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. Moreover, she received the support of Republican President George H. W. Bush, who nominated her for District Court in Southern New York, and then of Democratic President Bill Clinton, who selected her as his choice for an opening on the Second Circuit Court of Appeals."

The Congressman further mentioned the remarkable drive and intelligence that the nominee has demonstrated from her childhood, when she grew up in a public housing project in the South Bronx, to graduating *summa cum laude* from Princeton, and serving as an editor of the Yale Law Journal during her studies in New Haven. On the Second Circuit, she has participated in more than 3,000 panel decisions and authored roughly 400 opinions, handling difficult issues of constitutional law, complex procedural matters, and lawsuits involving complicated business organizations. She brings more federal judicial experience to the Supreme Court than any justice in 100 years, and more overall judicial experience than anyone confirmed for the Court in the past 70 years.

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*Former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, and was Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships, with more than 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft, that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of Deep Blue, the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the Global War on Terrorism. He previously served in the White House as President Clintons Director for Defense Policy and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, he is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.*